

DCI WEBSTER'S REMARKS AT SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

CIA HEADQUARTERS

26 MAY 1987

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MR. PRESIDENT: THAT BOATSWAIN'S PIPE SOUNDED MORE LIKE THE REFEREE'S OPENING WHISTLE AT A NEW BALL GAME. IT WAS NOT KNUTE ROCKNE WHO ISSUED THE CALL TO DUTY. THIS TIME IT WAS FROM "THE GIPPER" HIMSELF. I MUST TELL YOU THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL LINE OF SCRIMAGE WAS A TOUGH ONE, BUT I THINK THE FINAL SCORE MADE THE QUALIFYING GAME WORTHWHILE AND I AM NOW READY FOR THE MAIN EVENT.

MR. VICE PRESIDENT: I AM HONORED BY YOUR PRESENCE HERE TODAY WITH THE PRESIDENT, AND THIS ORGANIZATION FEELS HONORED BY YOUR PRESENCE AND REMEMBERS SO WELL YOUR SERVICE AS DCI.

MR. JUSTICE POWELL: I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT YOU WERE THE ONE TO SWEAR ME IN TODAY, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF OUR LONG PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP, BUT BECAUSE OF YOUR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE WORK OF AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE IN WORLD WAR II WHEN YOU SERVED ON THE ULTRA PROJECT IN ENGLAND, AND FOR THE ENORMOUS CONTRIBUTION THAT YOU MADE IN ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION.

ATTORNEY GENERAL MEESE: I APPRECIATE YOUR COMING OUT TODAY AND YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT IS FOR ME TO LEAVE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AFTER SO MANY YEARS. I KNOW THAT YOU AND I WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER IN MATTERS OF NATIONAL SECURITY IN THE YEARS AHEAD AND I THINK YOUR PRESENCE SYMBOLIZES THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PLAYS IN OUR NATIONAL SECURITY IN A GOVERNMENT OF LAWS AND NOT OF MEN.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GATES: I WANT TO THANK YOU NOT ONLY FOR YOUR TREMENDOUS HELP TO ME THROUGHOUT THE CONFIRMATION PROCESS AND IN GETTING READY FOR THIS APPEARANCE, BUT ALSO FOR YOUR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS ACTING DIRECTOR DURING THE PAST FIVE MONTHS. YOU HAVE ALWAYS PLACED THIS AGENCY AND YOUR COUNTRY FIRST AND I AM LOOKING VERY MUCH FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU IN THE FUTURE.

I WANT TO THANK DRU AND ALL THE MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY, MY CHILDREN WHO ARE HERE TODAY, FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND THEIR ABIDING LOVE THROUGH ALL THESE YEARS.

TODAY I LEAVE ONE PROUD INSTITUTION IN AMERICAN LIFE, THE FBI, TO JOIN ANOTHER ONE, THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. I WANT VERY MUCH TO BE WORTHY OF BILL CASEY, MY GOOD FRIEND, AND ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE LED THIS GREAT AGENCY SO WELL IN TIMES PAST. I COME WITH PROFOUND RESPECT FOR ALL THAT HAS BEEN

ACHIEVED AND WITH A DEEP AWARENESS OF THE ENORMOUS CHALLENGES THAT FACE THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY IN THE YEARS AHEAD. THERE ARE SOME TODAY WHO CAN HEAR MY VOICE BUT WHO CANNOT SHARE THE SUNLIGHT OF THIS OCCASION BECAUSE OUR COUNTRY NEEDS THEIR ANONYMITY. I SIMPLY WANT TO SALUTE THESE UNSEEN SOLDIERS OF DEMOCRACY AND SAY THAT I AM PROUD TO JOIN THEIR TEAM. THESE TIMES REQUIRE FAR MORE THAN JUST THE DESIGNATION OF A NEW DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE. WE MUST CONTINUE TO ATTRACT INTO THIS VITALLY IMPORTANT AGENCY THE FINEST, MOST INQUIRING MINDS, COURAGEOUS HEARTS, DEDICATED AMERICANS, MEN AND WOMEN WHO CONSIDER SERVICE IN THIS CRUCIAL WORK MORE IMPORTANT THAN FAME OR WEALTH, AND WORTHY OF THEIR HIGHEST ASPIRATIONS FOR A BETTER AND A SAFER WORLD.

MR. PRESIDENT, YOU HAVE THE TRUST, THE LOYALTY, THE LOVE AND RESPECT OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CIA. I PLEDGE TO YOU THAT WE WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THOSE WHO MUST MAKE THE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT DEFINE OUR PRESENT AND SHAPE OUR FUTURE, PROVIDING OUR ASSESSMENTS OBJECTIVELY, PROFESSIONALLY, HELPING TO PUT TRUTH INTO ACTION. AND WE WILL WORK WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES WHICH MUST ACT IN SECRET MATTERS AS SURROGATES FOR THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AND WE WILL BE WORTHY OF THEIR TRUST. WE WILL WORK WITH THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY TO MOBILIZE OUR VAST TALENT AND RESOURCES TO BETTER SERVE OUR COMMON PURPOSE. AND WE WILL

DILIGENTLY CARRY OUT OUR ASSIGNMENTS AROUND THE WORLD, HOWEVER
DIFFICULT, WITH FIDELITY TO THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF
OUR BELOVED COUNTRY, SO HELP US GOD.

THANK YOU.